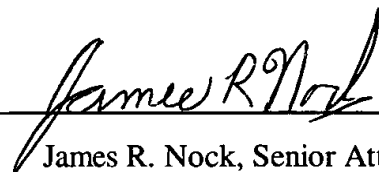


Remarks

In response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2003, the Applicant elects the claims of Group I, namely 1-9, 11-19, and 24. The claims of Group II consisting of claims 10 and 20-23 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____



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